



Environmental Education Program Registration 2016-2017 Information

Snowshoe Jaunt



FAST FACTS

What: Snowshoe Jaunt

When: Time TBD

Where: School *

Who: Grades 3-12

Cost: Fees are waived for 2016-2017 for Ulster County Schools. For other schools/groups, there is a \$3 per student fee.

Scheduling: As there is no way for us to predict snow conditions 4-6 months in advance, registration for this program is based on interest in participation. Upon receipt of adequate snow conditions, the educator will then email all teachers who have registered to offer dates on a first come first serve basis. This will likely mean a very short window of opportunity to set up the program, within a few days, as snow

conditions often deteriorate quickly. **Registration for this program indicates interest in being contacted when conditions are adequate for snowshoeing and the educator is available to deliver the program.**

Program Description

Winter is a wonderland in the Northeast and what better way to experience the fresh cool air of the season then get out on snowshoes. This program is designed for all abilities and includes:

- ☐ History and styles of snowshoeing
- ☐ Snowshoeing 101 Instruction
- ☐ Winter safety and survival
- ☐ Animal tracking
- ☐ Guided snowshoe hike
- ☐ Tubbs Aluminum Snowshoes for adults and students

Program Details

We will begin our program in your classroom. (* If availability permits, it could possibly take place at Hasbrouck Park, dependent on teacher interest and educator availability for driving vans.) From here, we will learn the ins and outs of this gracious winter recreation. All participants will be provided a pair of snowshoes upon arrival for use during the program. We



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will learn the techniques and then go out to explore your schoolyard in winter. We will be on snowshoes for about 45 minutes- 1 hour and, if desired, partake in a snowshoe race.

All participants should be dressed for a snowy winter day. Waterproof winter boots are the most appropriate footwear, but if not available, a sturdy sneaker would suffice. All participants should wear warm socks (preferably wool), warm pants/snow pants, a winter jacket, gloves/mittens and a hat.

The snowshoes that we use for this program are property of the Kingston City School District. The KCSD has 6 sets of 30 snowshoes that are all loaned within the elementary schools. Prior to the date of the program, it is the responsibility of the teacher to speak with the school physical education instructor/administrator to secure a class set of snowshoes from within the district. We have a small number of additional snowshoes for extra adults, upon request.

Adult chaperones are certainly welcome and encouraged. We require a minimum of 2 adults to attend with the class, and a minimum of a 12 to 1 ratio of students to adults at the program site. Adults should definitely come prepared to be hands on and engaged in the program as we will need assistance throughout the program.

The environmental educator will be engaging the students in the outdoor learning environment and an appropriate code of conduct is expected from each participant:

- ☑ Classroom teachers will be present for entire program
- ☑ All discipline issues will be addressed by classroom teachers
- ☑ Any student or chaperone who is disrupting the program may be asked to leave
- ☑ Use of cell phones and texting is not permitted
- ☑ Safety is of utmost priority

This is an outdoor education experience, but should be treated the same as any learning experience, that is hands-on, interactive and fun. Inappropriate behavior will result in a loss of the privilege to participate in the program.

In the event of inclement weather, we will call the school that morning to make any cancellations. At that point, we will offer another reschedule date if one is available. If you need to cancel for any reason, please call the Recreation Department as soon as possible at 481-7339 (Julie Noble's Extension).

If there are any questions, concerns or changes, the teacher should contact:

Julie Noble

Environmental Education and Sustainability Coordinator
Kingston Parks and Recreation

845-481-7339

JulieLNoble@kingston-ny.gov